

Congressional Record

United States of America

proceedings and debates of the 117^{tb} congress, second session

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022

No. 193

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RYAN of New York).

$\begin{array}{c} {\tt DESIGNATION~OF~SPEAKER~PRO}\\ {\tt TEMPORE} \end{array}$

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

> Washington, DC, December 13, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable PATRICK RYAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 10, 2022, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reflect upon a decade of service in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago, when I was first elected, I jotted down a list of goals that I hoped I would accomplish while serving the 17th Congressional District of Illinois.

As I was cleaning my office recently, I ran across that list again. A window into what I was thinking before I was even first sworn into office.

On that list: to build an exceptional constituent service program; to secure generous Federal funding and support local projects; and to develop innovative and practical solutions to the real problems that people face every day.

Reading it, I realized I never lost sight of what I came to Washington to do.

Goal number one: to serve the people in central, northern, and northwestern Illinois. That is why I was so proud when my team was honored as the top Democratic office for constituent services in Congress.

Goal number two: to deliver funding to help our communities.

Well, in 2021, I was the top House Democrat in bringing home Federal community project funding.

And goal number three: to listen to the people I serve and focus on solutions, such as when I helped pass two farm bills and prepare for a third; helped pass two surface transportation packages; wrote, passed, and saw enacted groundbreaking legislation to restore the rights of sexual assault and harassment survivors; and worked across the aisle to secure the largest investment in the Mississippi River since the Great Depression.

Each of these accomplishments speaks to who I have always looked out for: our family farmers, and the nearly 10,000 family farms that I represent. They are why I served on the House Agriculture Committee every year since I have been in Congress;

Our 90,000 labor households: That is why I fought to make sure that we pass bipartisan, once-in-a-generational investment in rebuilding our infrastructure:

And our working men and women: the people I met at every supermarket Saturday who took a moment to chat in the grocery store aisles;

And during 120 Cheri on shifts, which is what we call our own version of job shadowing. During my Cheri on shifts, I was a baker, a cattle auctioneer, a tow boat operator, and I even drove a Zamboni.

Every Cheri on shift gave me a firsthand view of how hard people worked to support their families and what they need from us here in Washington.

Like when Sarah Miller in Galesburg, Illinois, reached out to me. The mother of two young children, Sarah's drinking water had lead in it, but in order for her to afford to fix it, she would have had to drop out of nursing school. So I helped the city secure \$4 million in grants, and Sarah became one of several hundred families to have their solid lead water pipes replaced.

This is a picture of me working on replacing water pipes.

Listening to the stories of the people I serve has helped guide the work that I have done in Congress, but no one succeeds alone. Everything I have accomplished has been with the help and support of others, so I would like to say thanks.

Thanks to those who taught me what it means to lead. To Majority Leader STENY HOYER who has always been a true friend; to Speaker NANCY PELOSI, who proved that even while navigating treacherous waters, we never have to lose our way; and to my mentor, Senator DICK DURBIN, without whom I would not be standing here today.

When I was first elected, I was told it wasn't possible to make friends in Washington, but I was lucky enough to find a group of truly best friends here. Thank you to the pink ladies: Congresswomen Lois Frankel, Grace Meng, Ann Kuster, Julia Brownley, and our whip-elect, Katherine Clark, who are truly outstanding leaders for our Nation.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of Team Bustos over the years; and to the most important part of my team, my family: My sister, Lynn; our three sons, Tony, Nick, and Joey; our daughters-in-law; and grandchildren.

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

